Delhi High Court Order annulling the provision of Special Dispensation Admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas;

(b) if so, the result thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) The question of filing an appeal against the judgement of Delhi High Court annulling the Scheme of Special Dispensation Admissions in Kendriya Vidyalayas was considered in the Department and it has been decided not to file an appeal in the matter.

Non-availability of funds for making education a fundamental right

2904. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: SHRI GHUFRAN AZAM:

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned, "Plan to make elementary education a Fundamental right—where is fund: Empty coffers tell the talc", as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 17th February, 1999;

(b) if so, whether the. Union Government have decided to make elementary education a fundamental right, but adequate funds are not made available to State Governments to implement the scheme; and

(c) if so, the further reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) Yes. Sir.

(b) and (c) The Constitution (Eighty-Third Amendment) Bill, 1997 to make the right to free and compulsory education for children from 6 to 14 years of age a Fundamental Right was introduced in the Rajya Sabha on July 28. 1997. The Bill was referred to the Department-related Parliamentary Standing Committee on Human Resource Development which has proposed some modifications. It is felt that a wider public debate on the implications of the proposed legislation should be initiated. As such the question of allocation of funds to State Governments for this purpose docs not arise.

Funds for Educational Programme in Andhra Pradesh

2905. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has reminded for release of funds for two school education and child welfare schemes under the District Primary Education Programme and Integrated Child Development Scheme;

(b) the reasons for delay in releasing the funds; and

(c) by when the funds arc proposed to be released?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI): (a) to (c) No such reminder was received from Andhra Pradesh Government for release of grant under Integrated Child Development Scheme. However, an amount of Rs. 4676.50 lakhs was released to the State of Andhra Pradesh during financial year 1998-99 for the continued implementation of the Centrally Sponsored ICDS Scheme. Out of this Rs. 1550 lakhs was released for World Bank Assisted Project as a part of Andhra Pradesh Economic Restructuring Programme. As regards DPEP scheme, during 1998-99, an amount of Rs. 20 crores has been released as Government of India share to the Andhra Pradesh Pradhamika Vidya Parishad (AP-DPEP).